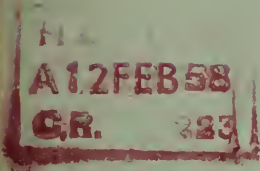


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for 1956

to the

E V E S H A M B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

by

E . T . S H E N N A N , M . B . , C h . B . , D . P . H .

(D*istrict* Medical Officer of Health)



BOROUGH OF EVESHAM.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health: J. J. Murray, M.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector: E. C. Melton, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspector: D.L. Evans, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Committees Concerned with Public Health Matters.

Public Health Committee: Chairman - Alderman Masters.

Housing Committee: Chairman - Councillor Andrews.

General Statistics.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,958
Population, Registrar-General's Estimate mid-1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,220
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,778
Rateable value at 1st April, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£195,969
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£807. 3. 3d.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1956.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1956:-

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Legitimate	99	105	204	
Illegitimate	4	1	5	
	103	106	209	176
<u>STILL BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate	1	1	2	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
	1	1	2	1
Birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	- 17.1			14.5.
Still birth-rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births	- 9.1			5.6
<u>DEATHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
	83	65	148	146
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	- 12.1			12.0
Deaths from pregnancy and childbirth			NIL	1
Maternal death-rate per 1,000 total (Live & still) births	-NIL			5.6
	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Deaths of infants under one year	3	1	4	7
Deaths of legitimate infants	3	1	4	7
Deaths of illegitimate infants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:</u>				
All infants per 1,000 live births	- 19.1			39.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	- 19.6			41.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL			NIL
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	- 26			23
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	- Nil			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	- Nil			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	- Nil			Nil

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:

	<u>England & Wales.</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>District</u>
	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Birth-rate	15.7	17.1	14.5
Death-rate	11.7	12.1	12.0
Infant Mortality rate	23.8	19.1	39.8

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE FOR 1956.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. T.B. of respiratory system	4	1	5
2. Other forms of T.B.	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and para. dis.	-	-	-
10. Cancer of Stomach	1	1	2
11. Cancer of Lungs	4	-	4
12. Cancer of Breast	1	1	2
13. Cancer of Uterus	-	1	1
14. Cancer - Lymph and other types	9	8	17
Cancer Total.	15	11	26
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	9	17
18. Coronary Dis., Angina	10	3	13
19. Hypertension with heart dis.	-	1	1
20. Other heart dis.	17	17	34
21. Other circulatory dis.	2	-	2
22. Influenza	1	-	1
23. Pneumonia	2	3	5
24. Bronchitis	7	5	12
25. Other dis. of resp. system	-	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined dis.	9	11	20
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. Other accidental causes	3	1	4
35. Suicide	2	-	2
36. Other violent causes	-	-	-
TOTAL:	83	65	148



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Regional Hospital Board arrangements for the treatment of infectious diseases and the ambulance system have both worked smoothly and satisfactorily.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The quality of the town water continued to be quite satisfactory.

During drought periods, because of the drop in yield of the springs it was found necessary to restrict use of water for certain purposes, and on occasions the main supply had to be turned off.

Agreement was reached with the Coventry Corporation to receive additional supplies from their River Severn trunk main. It is hoped that the work of making the connection to this main will be carried out in 1957.

Twelve samples taken from mains supply after treatment for bacteriological examination and eleven for chemical analysis proved satisfactory. Out of 19 samples of raw water taken from the six springs forming the main source of supply, only one proved unsatisfactory. Subsequent samples from the latter spring proved satisfactory.

The town water has a slight initial action on lead, but after about a week's contact the plumbo-solvency is reduced to a safe limit.

Approximately 3,770 houses are connected to the supply and only a few isolated properties are without mains water.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

During the year work commenced on the new sewerage disposal works at Clarkes Hill, and modifications to the old sewage works.

Every effort was made to keep the old works operating satisfactorily but with the inability of the works to deal with the quantity of sewage, a good effluent could not be produced.



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HOUSING.

84 new houses were completed by the local authority on their Fairfield Estate making a total of 1,181 Council houses in the Borough of which 644 are post war houses.

In addition 29 houses were completed under private enterprise.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year 12 unfit houses were demolished and 13 closed for human occupation. 19 families from these premises were rehoused.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspection of premises under the Food & Drugs Act continued to be carried out by the Public Health Inspector and his assistant.

Meat inspection was carried out at the local bacon factory and slaughterhouse where all carcasses and offal were examined. Whenever possible ante-mortem inspection was also carried out. Approximately 60% of the Inspector's time is taken up with this work.

RECORD OF INSPECTION AND CONDEMNATION.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1,471	50	394	5,882	31,597
Number inspected.	1,471	50	394	5,882	31,597
<u>All diseases except T.B.:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	1	11	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	212	18	-	64	1,221
Approximate percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	14.5%	36.0%	.2%	12.7%	3.9%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	58	6	-	-	703
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	4.0%	14.0%	-	-	2.2%

Amongst the chief causes of condemnation other than tuberculosis were, bruising, abscesses, cysts, parasitic infection, pneumonia, nephritis, necrotic and distoma livers, bone taint, decomposition.

The weight of meat condemned was approximately 22 tons. This was disposed of at the bacon factory digesting plant or stained and collected by bi-product manufacturers.

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit and surrendered voluntarily:-

Canned Goods	2471
Bottles	41
Fish	98 lbs.
Cheese	192 lbs.
Cereals	64 lbs.
Cooked Meats	28 lbs.

These items were disposed of by burial on the Council's refuse tip.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of Dairymen and purveyors	-	4
Number of Dairies registered	-	4

One of the above maintains a pasteurising plant and treats a substantial amount of the milk retailed in this and surrounding districts. No raw milk is sold. 42 samples were taken, all proving satisfactory.

49 inspections of dairies and delivery vans were made.

FOOD SHOPS AND CAFES.

Grocers, greengrocers, sweet shops and mixed food trade.	89
Butchers	14
Bakers and Confectioners	8
Fried Fish Shops	3
Wet Fish Shops	3
Cafes	20
Licensed premises (including clubs)	38

A total of 210 inspections of food shops were carried out and 22 notices requiring repairs, cleansing and other hygienic measures were complied with.

The general standard of these premises continues to remain satisfactory, but in a number of instances, it was necessary to make frequent visits to ensure the maintenance of a reasonable standard.

ICE CREAM.

Number of retailers on register - 51.

No icecream is now manufactured in the district, and only well known makes of icecream are now retailed. All eleven samples taken during the year proved satisfactory.

MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGE, POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED AND PRESERVED FOODS.

Eight premises are registered for these purposes in the Borough including two large factories which produce sausage, pies and cooked meats. Numerous visits of inspection were made to ensure that the foodstuff was handled hygienically. The general condition under which these foodstuffs are handled and produced can be regarded as satisfactory. 28 samples of sausages and 18 samples of pies were taken and examined for bacterial contamination. All proved satisfactory.

CAMPING SITES.

5 site licences are now in operation and four individual caravans are licensed.

The sites accommodate about 240 caravans during the holiday season and approximately 75 caravans and chalets on three of the sites are in permanent occupation.

All sites are reasonably well maintained and with regular surveillance no acute public health problems have arisen. Three chalets used for permanent occupation were condemned and demolished under the slum clearance programme.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The public open-air swimming bath at Common Road is municipally owned. Water is derived from the town mains and continuous break-point chlorination and filtration ensures purity. Daily tests for the efficiency of chlorination proved satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:-

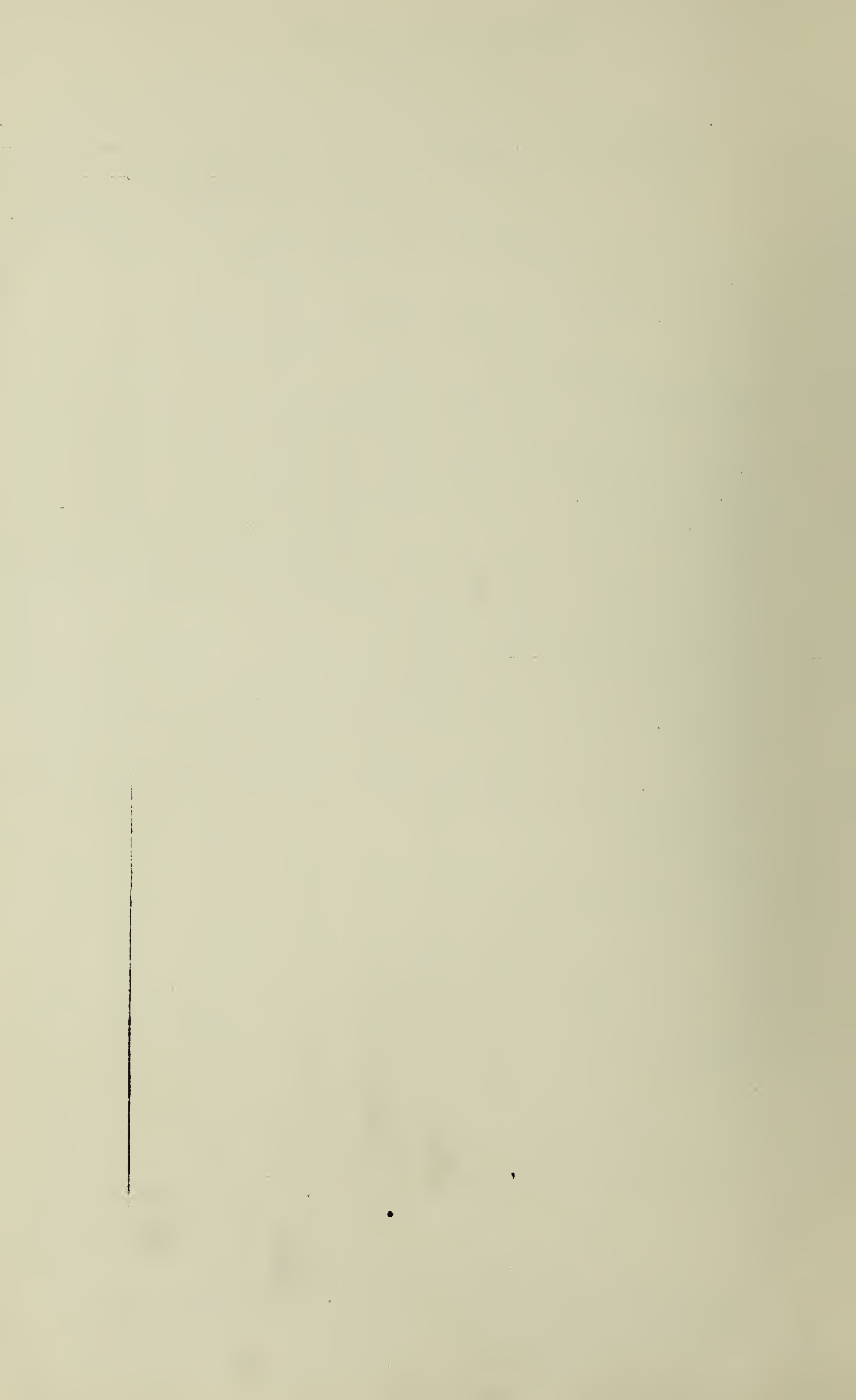
Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspect- ions.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	7	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	94	50	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excl'dg. outworkers' premises.)	2	2	-	-
TOTAL:	105	59	3	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences:</u>					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	4	2	-	3	-
	8	6	-	5	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK.

During the year 3 outworkers were employed in the Borough on glove making and 20 in the manufacture of spectacle cases. Working conditions were found to be quite satisfactory.



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notified diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year, 1956:-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to hospital.</u>	<u>Total deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria... ..	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	1	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Measles	3	-	-
Whooping Cough	11	-	-
Erysipelas... ..	5	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis (non para) ...	1	1	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	1	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
	27	4	Nil

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
CASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1956.

	Pneumonia	Dysentery,	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Acute Polio (Non Para.)	Food Poisoning.	Total.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
1 - 2 years	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
3 - 4 years	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	5
5 - 10 years	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	4
11 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
21 - 35 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45 years	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4
46 - 65 years	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	5
66 and over	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
	4	1	3	11	5	1	2	27

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases of diphtheria were reported during the year. It is eleven years since a confirmed case of diphtheria was notified.

WHOOPIING COUGH AND MEASLES.

11 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year as compared with 42 cases in 1955.

The three cases of measles occurred in April and affected two households only.

FOOD POISONING.

The two cases of food poisoning notified were from the same family. Investigations did not reveal its cause, and both cases made satisfactory progress.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year immunisation of children against diphtheria has been continued and a total of 194 children were immunised as follows:-

0 - 4 (inc.)
<u>184.</u>

5 - 14 (inc.)
<u>10</u>

These figures include immunisations carried out by private practitioners.

During the year 104 boosting injections were also given.

Since 1940 to the end of 1956 a total of 4319 children in the Borough have been immunised against diphtheria.

VACCINATION.

Sixty infants and one four years old child were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

No school closure was necessitated by infectious disease during 1956.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of the 6 new cases of Tuberculosis (as against 12 in 1955), and of all deaths from the disease in the Borough during 1956:-

<u>Age Groups.</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-pulm.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-pulm.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 34 years	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	3	1	-	5	1	-	-

Number of deaths from non-notified Tuberculosis	- Nil	<u>1955.</u> Nil.
Total number of Tuberculosis deaths	- 6	4

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The unit visited Evesham and District from 18th - 28th September, 1956.

In the Borough of Evesham a total of 1,561 persons were X-Rayed made up as follows:-

Organised visits from factories, etc.	137.
Mantoux Positive Reactors.	3
Members of the public	<u>1,421</u>
	<u>1,561</u>

This compares with 1,189 persons who were X-Rayed in 1955.

No cases of tuberculosis were discovered.

SUMMARY.

The birth rate has shown an increase from 1955 and is now higher than the current national rate. 33 more births were registered in 1956 than in 1955.

The death rate showed a very slight increase of 0.1%.

Of the total deaths of 148, 103 were aged 65 or over.

The deaths of infants fell from 7 in 1955 to 4 in 1956, and the infant mortality rate is now below the current national rate.

The notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis show little appreciable change.

The health of the district can be adjudged (on the foregoing figures) as being reasonably satisfactory.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. T. SHENNAN

Medical Officer of Health.

